

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An X-ray device ~~provided with~~ comprising:

an X-ray source and an X-ray detector which are mounted at different ends of a common holding device, the common holding device being connectable to a room by ~~way of~~ a supporting device, such that said supporting device has a first end connected to the common holding device and a second end connectable to the room,

wherein the supporting device comprises a plurality of hinged, serially interconnected supporting members connected by six hinges, each of the hinges enabling rotation about an axis of rotation so that the supporting device has six separate axes of rotation, ~~wherein the hinges connecting the supporting members are plane hinges, and wherein the position of the common holding device is changed in a plane defined by the supporting members which may be individually controlled, and~~

wherein the one of the six hinges connected to the second end is ~~connected to~~ a rotational hinge such that the entire supporting device is rotatable about an axis ~~that is parallel to the plane defined by the supporting members.~~

2. (currently amended) An X-ray device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the supporting device is a ~~serial manipulator, notably~~ a robot arm

3. (previously presented) An X-ray device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the supporting device is constructed and connected to the holding device in such a manner that the common holding device with the X-ray source and the X-ray detector can be positioned completely as desired.

4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) An X-ray device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the supporting device is connected to the holding device by ~~way of a hinge~~ one of the six hinges that permits rotation 360 degrees about an axis.

6. (previously presented) An X-ray device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the holding device is composed of at least two holding members, the X-ray source being mounted on a first holding member whereas the X-ray detector is mounted on a second holding member.

7. (previously presented) An X-ray device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the holding device is a C-arm.

8. (currently amended) An X-ray device as claimed in claim 1, ~~such that there are provided~~ further comprising means for monitoring the distance between an object to be examined and moving parts of the X-ray device, ~~notably~~ including the X-ray source and the X-ray detector.

9. (previously presented) An X-ray device as claimed in claim 8, wherein the means for monitoring the distance are provided with ultrasound sensors and ultrasound detectors.

10. (previously presented) An X-ray device as claimed in claim 8, wherein the means for monitoring the distance include mechanical contact sensors.

11. (previously presented) The X-ray device of claim 1, wherein the common holding device is rigid, such that the distance between the X-ray source and the X-ray detector and the orientation of both elements relative to one another are invariable.

12. (previously presented) The X-ray device of claim 2, wherein the serial manipulator is controlled by software.

13. (currently amended) An X-ray device ~~provided with~~ comprising:

an X-ray source and an X-ray detector which are mounted at different ends of a common holding device, the common holding device being connectable to a room by ~~way of~~ a supporting device,

wherein the supporting device comprises a plurality of hinged, serially interconnected supporting members connected by six hinges, each of the hinges enabling rotation about an axis of rotation so that the supporting device has six separate axes of rotation, ~~wherein the hinges connecting the supporting members are plane hinges, and wherein the position of the common holding device is changed in a plane defined by the supporting members which may be individually controlled,~~ wherein the holding device is composed of at least two holding members, the X-ray source being mounted on a first holding member whereas the X-ray detector is mounted on a second holding member, and wherein the distance between the X-ray source and the X-ray detector is changeable by moving the first and second holding members such that ~~the~~ an imaging scale and a size of the examination zone of the X-ray device are variable.

14. (previously presented) The X-ray device of claim 8, wherein emergency braking is initiated when the distance between the moving parts and the object to be examined fall below a safety threshold.

15. (previously presented) The X-ray device of claim 10, wherein the mechanical contact sensors produce a signal upon contact with the object to be examined.

16. (previously presented) The X-ray device of claim 8, wherein the means for monitoring the distance include a separate video system to continuously monitor the motion of the X-ray source and the X-ray detector.

17. (currently amended) The X-ray device of claim 1, wherein the X-ray source and the X-ray detector are mounted on the common holding device by a displacement device such that the X-ray source and the X-ray detector ~~can be displaced~~ are displaceable along an axis.

18. (currently amended) An X-ray device ~~provided with~~ comprising:

an X-ray source and an X-ray detector which are mounted at different ends of a common holding device, the common holding device being connectable to a room by ~~way of~~ a supporting device,

wherein the supporting device comprises a plurality of hinged, serially interconnected supporting members, ~~wherein the hinges connecting the supporting members are plane hinges, and wherein the position of the common holding device is changed in a plane defined by the supporting members which may be individually controlled, wherein~~ such that the supporting device is a serial manipulator, and wherein the supporting device is a flexible arm comprising six separate hinges, each of the hinges enabling rotation about an axis of rotation such that the supporting device has six separate axes of rotation.

19. (previously presented) The X-ray device of claim 1, wherein the second end of the supporting device is connected to the room at a connection point such that the rotational hinge permits rotation about an axis that extends perpendicularly out from the connection point.

20. (canceled)

21. (currently amended) The X-ray device of claim 13, further comprising a third holding member connected to the supporting device, wherein each of said first and second holding members is connected to said third holding member via a hinge, said first and second holding members being individually controllable to change the distance between the X-ray source and the X-ray detector such that the imaging scale and ~~[[a]]~~ the size of the examination zone of the X-ray device are variable.

22. (new) The X-ray device of claim 1, wherein three of the six hinges of the supporting device are plane hinges.

23. (new) The X-ray device of claim 13, wherein three of the six hinges of the supporting device are plane hinges.

24. (new) The X-ray device of claim 18, wherein three of the six hinges of the supporting device are plane hinges.